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Center for Advanced Energy Studies awards \$10,000 in scholarships

IDAHO FALLS – The Center for Advanced Energy Studies today awarded \$10,000 in scholarships to university students who interned at Idaho National Laboratory this summer.

CAES gave out seven \$1,000 scholarships and one \$3,000 scholarship. Recipients were selected based on an abstract each intern wrote describing their internship work, as well as a brief essay each wrote describing their career interests and the energy challenges the nation and world face.

"These students have an impressive array of career interests related to energy," said Oren Hester, CAES deputy director. "Their interests range from nuclear energy, modeling and renewable energy to public policy and influencing public opinion."

This is the second year CAES has awarded scholarships to INL interns. It launched the program last year to help fulfill its mission of increasing the number of students entering the energy field.

Hester said CAES is committed to the program and plans to continue awarding scholarships in the future.

"Our intent is to encourage students to choose a career in the energy arena," he said.

Dylan Laug, a junior majoring in biology at Whitworth University, won the \$3,000 scholarship.

As an INL intern, Laug was involved in the characterization and storage supply chain of cellulosic feedstocks that are used in biorefineries.

"Upon earning my graduate degree, I hope to be able to address and quantify regional issues that may have significant influence in feasibility of various biorefinery feedstocks across the United States and across the globe," he said.

This year's \$1,000 scholarship winners are:

*Samuel Brinton, who is majoring in nuclear engineering and music at Kansas State University

*Mackenzie Leigh Gorham, a graduate student studying nuclear engineering at Idaho State University

*Jesse Johnson, who is majoring in mechanical engineering at Brigham Young University

*Ellen Roybal, a graduate student studying economic and environmental modeling at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

*Andrew Thomas, who is majoring in political science at Boise State University

*Diana Tingen, who is majoring in nuclear engineering at North Carolina State University

*Erin Gantz, a junior studying chemistry at Carnegie Mellon University

CAES is a public/private partnership between Idaho National Laboratory, the U.S. Department of Energy and the state of Idaho through its three research universities – Boise State University, Idaho State University and the University of Idaho.

For more information, visit www.caesenergy.org.

-INL- 09-036

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